

WILLIAMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
Wednesday, January 29, 2003

A work session of the Williamsburg Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, January 29, 2003, 9:00 a.m., in Conference Room 3A, Municipal Building, 401 Lafayette Street.

ATTENDANCE AND CALL TO ORDER

Present were Commissioners Friend, Hertzler, McBeth, Pons and Smith. Absent were Commissioners Freiling and Young. Also present was Planning Director Nester and City Manager Tuttle.

First Vice Chairman Friend called the meeting to order. The proposed Five Year Capital Improvement Program was discussed.

Mr. Tuttle noted that the Capital Improvement Plan is based on the extension of many projects from previous years, such as the Prince George Parking Garage, Richmond Road Improvement Project, Treyburn Drive, etc. He said that in the past the City has reserved sales tax revenues (approximately \$4 million/year) for these improvements - a pay-as-you-go source of funding. Added to this are cash reserves, and the balance of funding needed is borrowed. Borrowing funds limits the availability of sales tax revenues for future years projects because the money is needed for debt service. Mr. Tuttle said that the main role of the Planning Commission is to review how the Capital Improvement Program addresses the goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

Following Mr. Tuttle's remarks, there was a general discussion of the Capital Improvement Program, addressing:

- Details of the Richmond Road and Treyburn Drive projects
- Future use of properties between Richmond Road and the railroad tracks
- Transportation impacts of new roadways
- Prince George streetscape
- Underground wiring, particularly the crossover on York Street
- Impact of the Jamestown 2007 celebration on the Capital Improvement Program (Mr. Friend said that this could be a subject for a future work session)
- Comments made at the public hearing by Nanci Bond and Darr Barshis

Mr. Friend asked what specific comments would the Commission like to address in its letter to Mr. Tuttle. Mr. Hertzler proposed improvements to multi-use trails around the Rec Center – specifically widening the sidewalk along Longhill Road to better tie-in with the existing trail in James City County. Mrs. Smith proposed an active park with playground equipment within walking distance of the Historic Area (such as in Bicentennial Park), with the equipment designed to fit in with the character of the area. These items were acceptable to the Commission, and Mr. Nester said that he would prepare a draft letter for Commissioners to review prior to the February 19 meeting.

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The Commission scheduled a viewing meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 9:00 a.m. at the Heritage Inn for SPR #03-02, the request of Westgate Resorts (Heritage Inn) to construct additional parking spaces at the hotel at 1324 Richmond Road. Mr. Nester noted that the applicant is requesting a waiver to allow filling in a ravine at the rear of the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Charles Friend, First Vice Chairman
Williamsburg Planning Commission